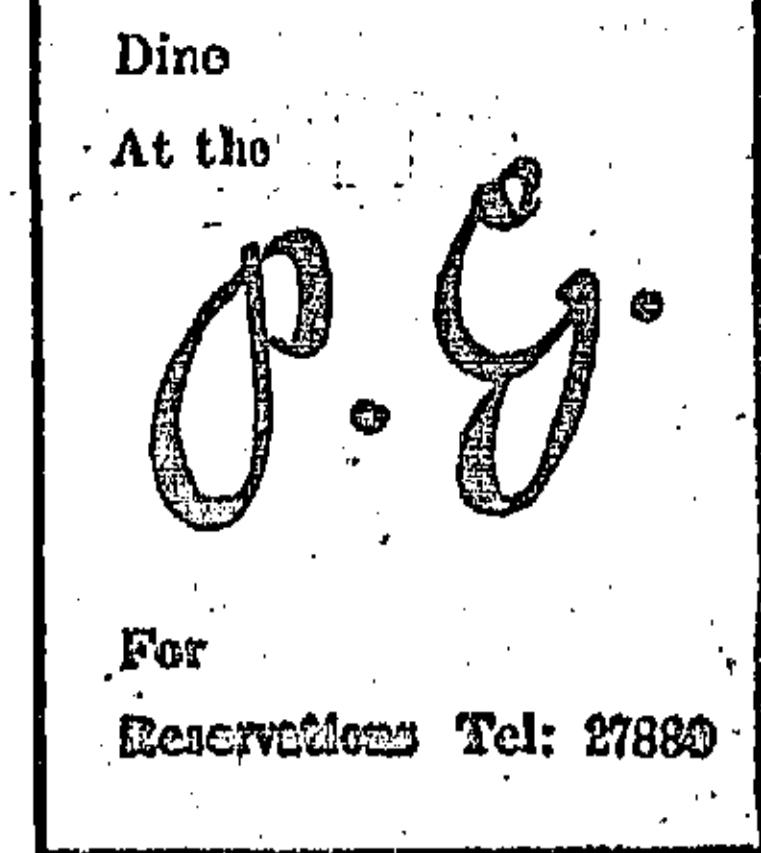




The Hongkong Telegraph



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Price 20 Cents

COMMUNIST ATTACKS REPULSED North Koreans & Chinese Reds Fail To Penetrate Chipyong

Hand-To-Hand Fighting Rages Through Night

COMMENT

Totalitarians hail the great debate in the United States and the recent recriminations between the United States and the Commonwealth as signs of deep confusion. They do not, or pretend not to, understand that this is the normal way of reaching decisions in the free world.

They depend on iron discipline and the submergence of self to the will of the small Party oligarchy. When these collapse it is serious indeed. Precisely this process is now going on among the Communist Parties in Europe.

It is not confined to the West, though it may be more conspicuous in Italy and France. But the rot has set in behind the curtain, as the flight of M. Clementis from Czechoslovakia shows. He was responsible for the Communist coup d'état in that country. In Eastern Europe all is hidden till an episode like this occurs. Only when the rebel runs can we read. In the West all is revealed.

The truth is that differences in the Western camp are limited to tactics. On the face of it differences between the schools headed by Messrs. Dewey, Taft, Hoover, Eisenhower and Stassen are greater than those between any of them and Britain.

In due course there will be an accommodation, and the Chiefs of Staff will have the last word in strategy and deployment.

The major difference between London and Washington lies on the way to handle China. Peking seems determined to decide that issue because of its intransigence. It has given not a single solid proof as yet that it is prepared to make any decisive switch in policy.

Indeed, the issue has reverted to the soldier once more after an oratorical interlude. What happens on the Korean battlefield will be for some time much more important than anything said in Lake Success or any of the capitals chiefly concerned.

RUSSIA'S CHARGES REJECTED

Lake Success, Feb. 13.

The United Nations General Assembly today threw out Russia's charges that the United States was guilty of aggression against China.

Although the charges were rejected last week by the Assembly's Political Committee, Russia insisted on her right of reintroducing the condemnatory resolution before the full Assembly.

The resolution was voted down by 48 to five votes, with the Soviet bloc, in opposition and Burma, Indonesia and Yugoslavia abstaining.

The Soviet resolution called on the Assembly to label as aggression "the invasion by United States armed forces of the island of Taiwan (Formosa)." It would have required the Assembly to request the Security Council to "take the necessary steps to ensure immediate cessation of aggression against China by the United States."

The Assembly then took up the companion Soviet resolution seeking condemnation of the United States for alleged air raids on Manchuria and the alleged halting and inspection of a Chinese Communist merchant vessel.—United Press.

Lords Shock For Labour

London, Feb. 13. The House of Lords, where the Conservative opposition has a big majority, today passed a bill against the wishes of the Labour Government by 60 votes to 33.

The bill, which seeks to extend to 60 miles the radius within which private road haulers may work, cannot become law unless the Government is defeated in the House of Commons.

The Government contends that the bill would torpedo the State-run transport industry.

Private road haulers are allowed to work within a radius of 25 miles.—Reuter.

Central Front, Korea, Feb. 14. United Nations forces drew a tight perimeter around the central front town of Chipyong early today and repulsed a battalion-sized banzai attack after a vicious hour-long engagement.

The attacking force, first identified as Chinese Communists but now believed to also contain North Koreans, threw a fanatic charge at United Nations defenders at 1.30 a.m. today.

The battalion of Reds rammed into United Nations positions on the north and northeastern outskirts of the town, fighting hand-to-hand engagements for an hour.

Officers in Chipyong reported at 3 a.m. today that the attack had been repulsed and they have set up a tight perimeter which has not been penetrated.

A United Press correspondent talked to officers in Chipyong by a field phone. They said the city was under strong attack at 10.30 p.m. last night and intense duelling with automatic weapons fire had been almost incessant since then. The Reds brought up either tanks or self-propelled guns to shell United States positions, but they could not tell which because of darkness. The Reds rained mortar shells into the town. Officers said that early reports that the town was surrounded were not true.

Asked how the situation was, they reported, "We are doing some heavy fighting, but the situation does not seem to be getting any worse." — United Press.

NEW ATTACK LOOMS

Tokyo, Feb. 13. Fifty thousand Chinese Communists and North Koreans, defying non-stop air strikes, today massed for a new plunge on the central front. It is expected to come through the snow-capped mountains to the north-west of the key junction of Wonju.

There was little contact throughout the day while United Nations troops pulled back hurriedly from Hoengsong and stood to in a new defence line screening key passes in Korea's mountainous spine.

Communist forces moving in battalions threatened the Wonju-Yoju road and both sides of Wonju.

The salient they forced yesterday after 24 hours' onslaught had turned into a wide, 20-mile front with the United Nations' shoulder holding the flank of the western forces just south of Seoul.

A British brigade, clearing hills near Seoul, had its first action since returning to the line. The British killed 30 Chinese Communists.

British tanks supported the Gloucesters as they mopped up hills. One of the tanks was slightly damaged by mortar fire.

AIR ACTIVITY

Tonight's Air Force summary said that fighter bombers, using new search tactics, today destroyed or damaged a record number of more than 200 vehicles.

The summary said that warplanes used a new, secret way of searching out camouflaged truck and troop carriers north of the central front. They definitely destroyed 185 enemy vehicles and damaged 21 others.

Threat To Kill Dr. Edith

London, Feb. 13. The police today mounted guard on the home of Dr. Edith Summerskill, the Minister of National Insurance, after a threat against her life.

The threat was made to an inspector of the Ministry by a man at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, about 150 miles from London. The man, who appeared to be unbalanced, according to the inspector, said: "I am going to kill the Minister." — Reuter.

SHIP TIE-UP IN CALCUTTA

Calcutta, Feb. 13. A lightning strike of 30,000 seamen and shore workers today tied up almost all shipping in Calcutta port.

They were protesting against the present system of medical examination.

With a slump in shipping at present, no ship is due to sail from Calcutta until Feb. 22.— Reuter.

Americans Ponder Future Action On 38th Parallel

Washington, Feb. 13.

Authoritative sources said today that any final United Nations decision on again crossing the 38th Parallel in Korea would depend on future military and diplomatic conditions.

If the United Nations forces fight to the 38th Parallel and set up a strong defence line, authorities are hopeful that the Chinese Communists would agree to a cease-fire that would allow the unification of all Korea under United Nations supervision.

If the Parallel is reached and the Communists do not want a truce, the assumption was that the United Nations forces would probably be allowed to cross the Parallel for limited penetrations into North Korea. However, there are no indications that another stab toward the Manchurian border would be authorised.

The State Department for the past several weeks has been conferring with the ambassadors of other nations that have troops in Korea regarding the future of battle and diplomatic strategy. The results of these conversations have been kept secret, officials said, because:

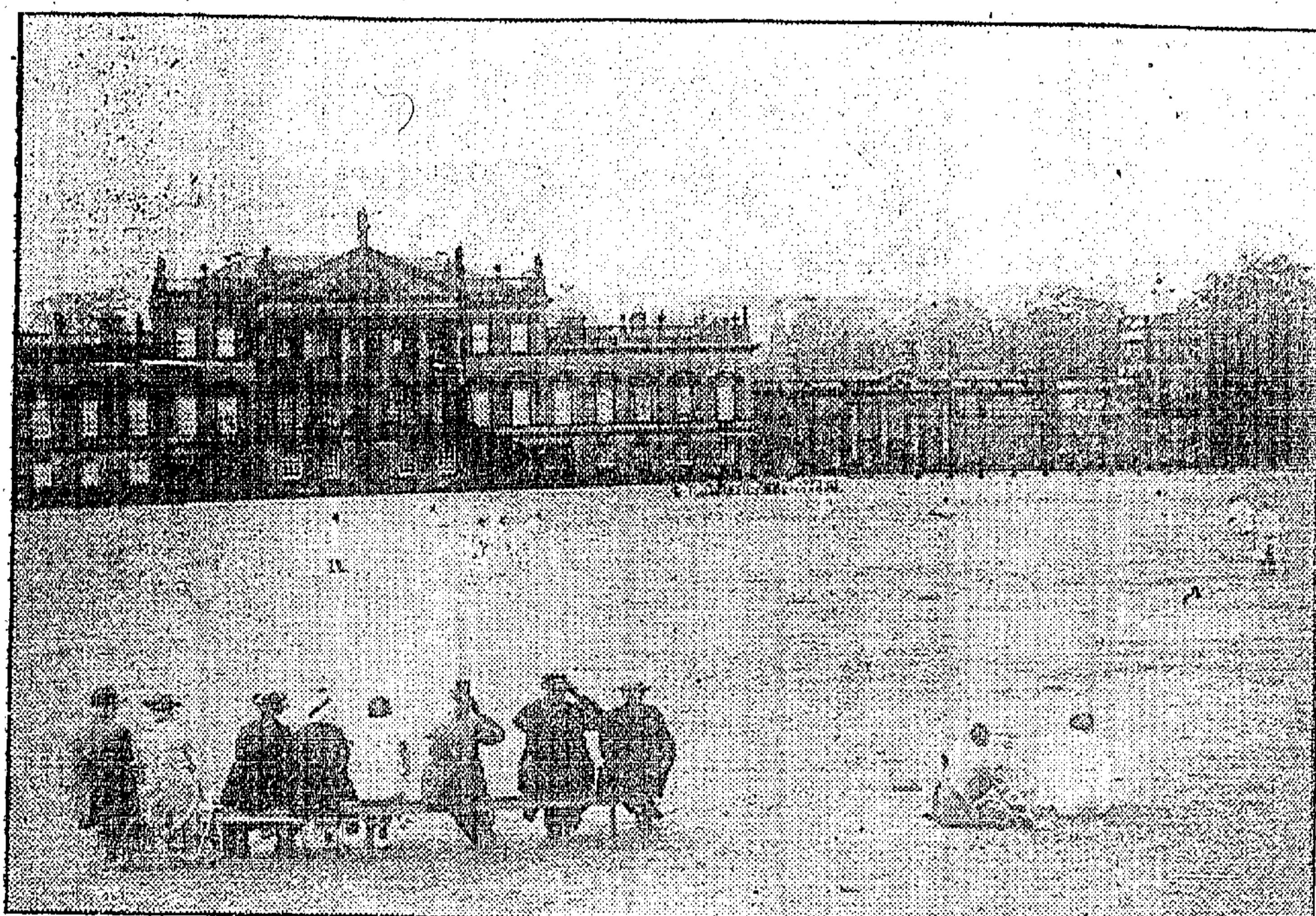
(1) The future United Nations battle strategy, if disclosed, might be advantageous to the Communists;

(2) The United Nations forces might be unable to return to the 38th Parallel if the new Communist offensive is successful.

(3) New moves toward a cease-fire in Korea might be made by the United Nations good offices commission, and may result in a truce. This truce would possibly be at the 38th Parallel, according to the American view, if the Chinese Reds would agree on the United Nations terms.

The announcement that the consultations on the 38th Parallel were under way was made quickly after the British Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, told the Commons on Monday that Britain was opposed to another crossing of the Parallel until full consultations had been undertaken in the United Nations. Diplomatic informants said Mr. Attlee would take a cautious view of any major United Nations offensive that would attempt to drive beyond the dividing line between North and South Korea.—United Press.

ANCESTRAL HOME AT STAKE



A view of Wentworth Woodhouse, in Yorkshire, the ancestral home of the Earls of Fitzwilliam and one of the largest of the stately homes of England. The ownership of the magnificent residence is bound up in a case in the High Court, where Mr George James Charles Fitzwilliam is seeking recognition as the rightful heir to Earl Fitzwilliam. The present Earl, the ninth, is 67. He has no children and the present heir-presumptive is Captain William Thomas George Wentworth Fitzwilliam. — Central Press.

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MP's In Ceylon Walk Out

Colombo, Feb. 13.

Members of Ceylon's Opposition parties—Trot-skyites, Communists, the Ceylon Indian Congress and independents—walked out of the House of Representatives today.

The Prime Minister, Mr Don Stephen Senanayake, had earlier told the Opposition leader, Dr N. M. Perera, of the Lanka Sama Samaj Party (Trot-skyite), that Mr Albert F. Peris was the Government's nominee as Speaker of the House. Dr Perera said that the Opposition could not accept the nomination. Mr Peris, formerly Deputy Speaker, was elected the Speaker after the Opposition had walked out. He takes the place of the late Sir Francis Molamure, who died on Jan. 25.—Reuter.

French Assembly Approval

Paris, Feb. 13.

The French National Assembly approved by 387 votes to 177 today the Government's action in dissolving France's three Communist-dominated organisations: the World Federation of Trade Unions, the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the Women's International Democratic Federation.

Replying to violent Communist protests, the Minister of the Interior, Signor Henri Queuille, said: "The leaders of these organisations have carried on propaganda against the French Government. It is intolerable that foreigners should carry on such propaganda." — Reuter.

Royal Tour As Scheduled

Perth, Feb. 13.
The Royal tour of Australia and New Zealand in the autumn of 1952 will run to schedule unless the international situation deteriorates, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Robert Menzies, said on his return to Australia from London today.

Mr Menzies said that the King and Queen and Princess Margaret were delighted with the draft arrangements he discussed with them in London. They made no changes in the tour plans or schedule, he said. — Reuter.

RIVIERA TALKS CARRIED A STAGE FURTHER

Santa Margherita, Feb. 13.

France was reported here today to have offered Italy the use of her North African mineral resources—though these are outside the European coal-steel plan.

Details were not discussed at today's second session of the "good neighbours" conference of the French Premier, M. René Pleven, and the French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, with the Prime Minister of Italy, Signor Alcide de Gasperi, and the Foreign Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, of Italy.

These, it was believed, would be examined later by technical delegations from the two countries.

German rearmament and the European Army, the main subjects of yesterday's preliminary meeting, were again touched on briefly today.

A usually well-informed French source said that M. Pleven, while privately reasoning the need for German rearmament, was seeking a compromise which would satisfy Italy and not antagonise French public opinion.

They had agreed in principle yesterday to the creation of a European Army as soon as possible but no details were then discussed.

The Ministers also discussed today the creation of a Customs Union between the two countries and the question of increased Italian immigration to France.

M. Pleven was reported to have assured Signor de Gasperi that France sympathised with Italy's unemployment problem but that the intransigent view of the powerful Communist-led General Confederation of Labour (the C. G. T.) made it virtually impossible at the moment to consider any substantial increase in the number of workers allowed into France.

Temperatures were falling from Wisconsin to Texas, where the mercury dropped 26 degrees in 24 hours.

The weather bureau said that sub-zero temperatures would clamp down on Wisconsin, Iowa and northern Illinois.

Houghton, Michigan, was the nation's coolest spot today with a reading of 27 below zero.

The rest of the country enjoyed generally fair weather and the cold air slowed down the rampaging rivers in the Pacific northwest where floods have taken at least seven lives, covered more than 50,000 acres and caused damage estimated at \$50,000,000.—United Press.

NEW COLD WAVE HITS AMERICA

Chicago, Feb. 13.

A new cold wave bore down on the Mid-West today behind an ice storm. But it was hoped that the cold weather would bring relief to flood-stricken western Washington where 5,000 persons were driven from their homes.

The ice storm, 100 miles wide, moved south through Missouri, northern Illinois and Indiana and southern Michigan. It was followed by snow that piled up five inches in Madison, Wisconsin, and was expected to cover the north central states.

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Red Charge Against Australia

London, Feb. 13.

A Soviet news agency despatch received in London today said that the American "imperialists" had assigned a definite role to Australia in the preparation of an aggressive war against the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic.

An article by Verkhov in "Red Fleet" said: "The reactionary Menzies Government, acting on Washington's orders, sent two Australian warships and a squadron of fighting planes to help the American aggressors invading Korea and recruited several thousand Australians for the sanguinary adventure."

"The Australian Air Force takes active part in suppressing the national liberation movement in Malaya. The militarisation of the country spells a further reduction of the standard of life of the Australian people and a curtailment of home building and other civilian construction."

"Australia has an acute housing shortage."

"The pro-American policy of the Australian rulers," Kerkhov continued, "arouses the indignation of the masses. The peace movement is expanding everywhere." — Reuter.

WORLD'S PARANOIC TENDENCY

Indian Philosopher Analyses The International Situation

United Nations Charter Only Hope For Peace

Peace, which was precarious and in peril today, could be saved only if the nations of the world worked together in a spirit of genuine co-operation with a common hope and a common faith, Sir S. Radhakrishnan, the Indian Ambassador in Moscow and Spalding Professor of Philosophy at Oxford University, said here tonight.

He was speaking as the guest of honour at the Cosmos Society and the United Nations Association of the Oxford University.

The failure of the United Nations to preserve peace, he said, was due mainly to the fact that "we are attempting to impose an international pattern of life on men and nations who are still provincially minded."

"Our loyalty to the world community is academic. Our real loyalty is to our groups, racial and religious, national or ideological," he added.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan said the fact that we should be rehearsing a third world war so soon after the last one is a source of deep uneasiness and anxiety to all men of feeling.

"Peoples, whether in Washington or in Moscow, in London or in Peking, are alarmed at the drift to a third world war. The governments of member States are lining up with one or the other of the two world systems which view each other — suspicious, secretive and uncomprehending.

"We seem to have developed what the psychologists call a paranoid tendency which has been defined as 'a general disposition to misjudge people, to become suspicious without adequate grounds, to feel that people are working against one when they are not really doing so.'

"The main psychological mechanism involved is that of projection, a projecting of the person's aggressiveness and hostility upon others."

The Indian Ambassador said: "We must give up a fatalistic view, that we are the victims of historical necessity. We should not accept the automatic or inevitable view of history." There was room for the play of chance and of contingent, for

HISTORY'S EXAMPLE

"If we engage in a third world war to crush Communism and remake the world nearer our heart's desire, does history encourage us in the hope that the results will be as we anticipate?

"Suppose we inflict a military defeat, can we be sure that Russia and China will cease to exist or at least become the satellites of the victorious powers?

"Will a war solve the problem of our relations with Russia and China? Can we afford to have occupation armies for all time?

"We have to settle with them and cannot that be done without a head-on collision?"

Sir S. Radhakrishnan asked: If human civilisation, after centuries of religion and humanism, could not solve its problems without engaging in mutual destruction, was that civilisation worth saving?

The best time to stop a war was before it started.

Oxford, Feb. 13.

"Our Governments, I am afraid, are not in touch with intelligent public opinion. The peoples of the world wish for peace from the bottom of their hearts. They will back up any leader who, with boldness and imagination, courage and integrity, should cut across the vicious circle and approach the international problems with sanity and commonsense."

UN FAILINGS

Analysing the cause why the United Nations was failing the world, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that he would not refer to its central structure which required to be revised, as representation on it was inequitable whether we took population, industrial potential, military strength or cultural values.

The United Nations was failing us, he said, because, in spite of our professions regarding the sanctity of treaties and international obligations, we were not serious about the proper functioning of that organisation.

He enumerated four points in which he claimed the United Nations was not functioning properly.

Firstly, he said: "The first principle of the United Nations is universality and we have surrendered it. After centuries of exploitation and misgovernment, the people of China elected to come under a new regime which gives them hope of the future and China, though one of the five Great Powers, is not represented on the Security Council or the United Nations Organisation.

"The second great principle for the proper working of the United Nations is agreement among the Great Powers for which the veto was devised, and we have surrendered it.

"The United Nations is not to be an exponent of this or that view of life. It is to be the voice of the conscience of humanity, which is not so today.

Thirdly, he said, the United Nations was intended for making peace and not war.

"Negotiation and settlement are its methods rather than threat and sanctions. Its main function is to conciliate political differences which divide men and thus obstruct social and economic development.

"Its decisions have the power to tighten or relax tension and to say the least some of the recent decisions have been most unfortunate. The United Nations has become a forum for international abuse where we call each other names."

A CHALLENGE

Lastly, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said: "The United Nations is a challenge to us all. Its faith is in democracy and not one nation can say that the principles of the Charter to which it has subscribed are being implemented within its borders.

"Democracy is inconsistent with the black-out of independent thought and control of the mind, arbitrary arrests and condemnations. Democracy is inconsistent with race discrimination.

New Health Minister



Mr. Hilary Marquand, appointed Minister of Health in succession to Mr. Aneurin Bevan, pictured in his office after taking up his new post.—

Central Press.

tion and disregard of economic and social rights of large numbers of men.

"The Charter requires us to remove the chains that bind the limbs and souls of men in Asia and Africa. To ignore any of these is to deny the validity of the democratic cause and to forfeit the faith which underlies the Charter."

All these things were held up in the name of combating the Communist menace. The best way to defeat Communism was to take the United Nations Charter seriously.

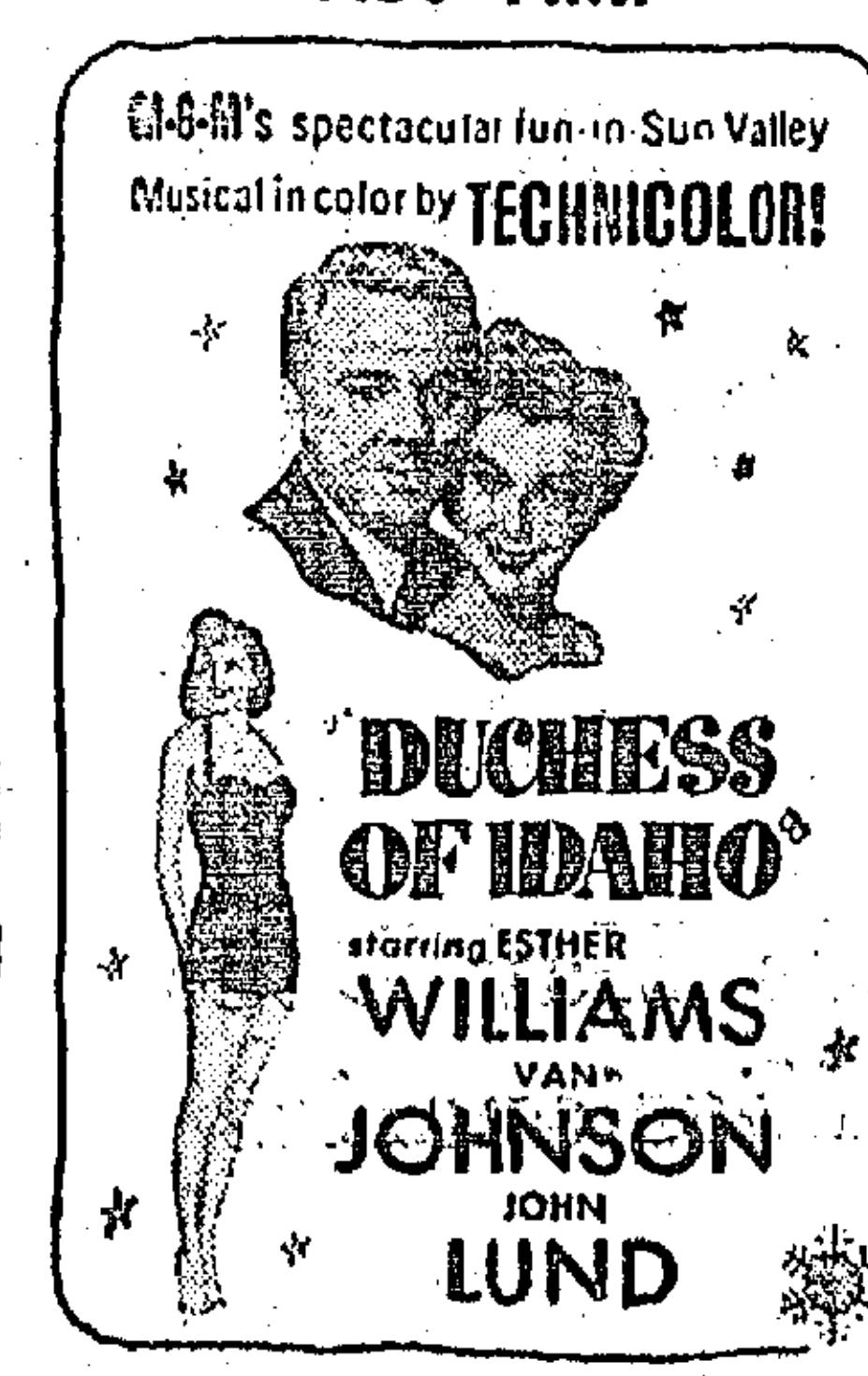
"Let us not be afraid of losing 'face,'" he said. "The leadership of the world today is with the United States. In that country there is a large body of liberal opinion which has only one interest, a durable peace and understanding with Russia and China. It is not impossible.

"The United Nations offers us the one platform where an understanding on Germany, Japan and Austria and the reduction of armaments can be reached.

"It is the one symbol of hope in a troubled world."—Reuter.

Queens

SHOWING TO DAY
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 &
9.30 P.M.



Mightiest Display Of Anglo-US Seapower

Valetta, Feb. 13. Three combined fleets—the mightiest Anglo-American display of seapower since the end of the war—smashed through simulated attacks by "enemy" submarines and jet fighters today to wind up their two-day manoeuvres in the vital Mediterranean Sea.

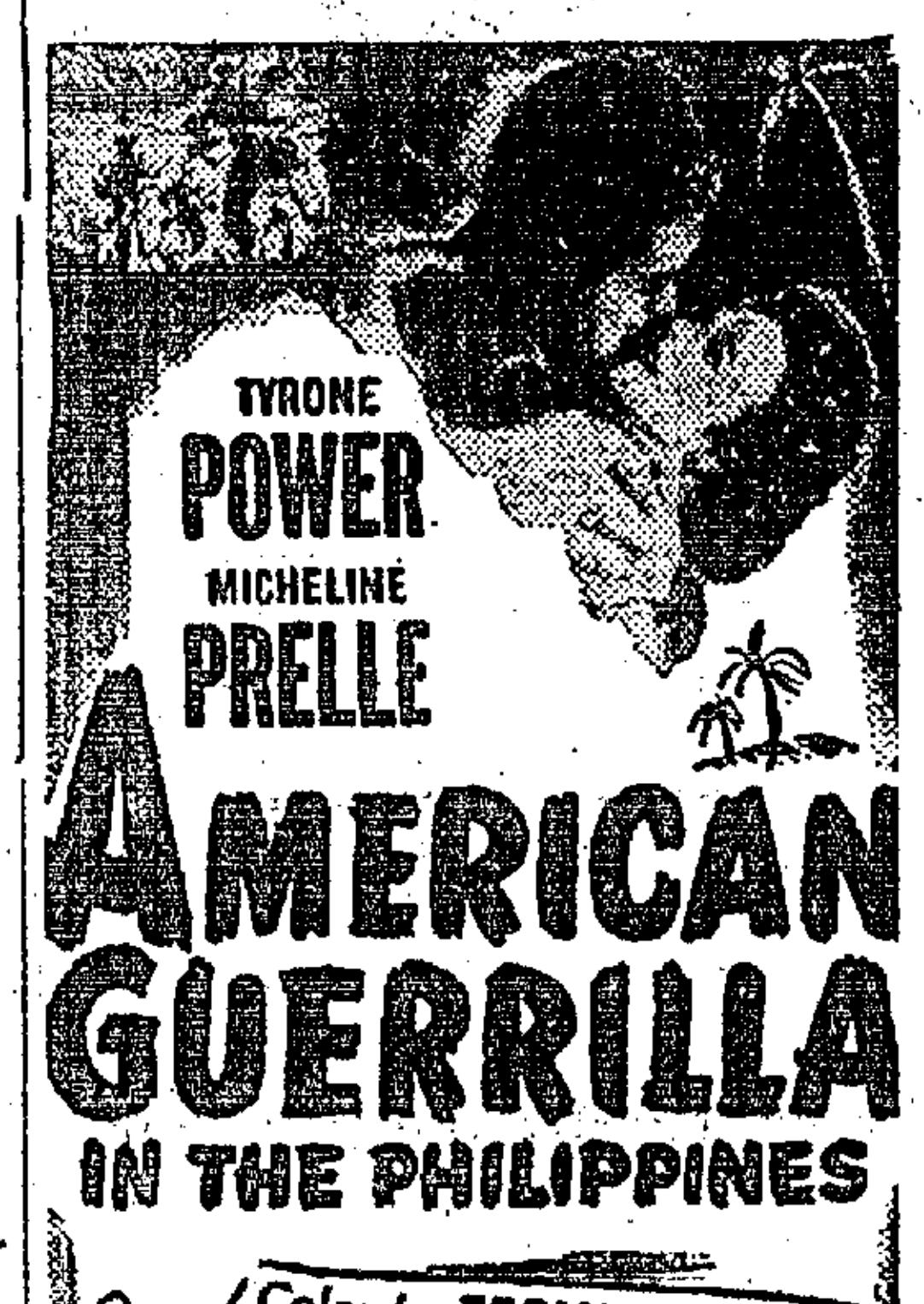
Some 60 warships of the British Home and Mediterranean Fleets and the United States Sixth Fleet steamed toward port, where the officers of both nations will assess the "damage" that might have been caused if the mock battles had been real.

"Every kind" of wartime exercises except amphibious landings were practised under top secret wartime conditions in an all-out test of Allied planes to defend the area. Vessels, ranging from battleships and aircraft carriers to frigates, fought through choppy seas under mock fire from attack bombers and some of the fastest jet fighters in the U.S. Navy.

The full results of the exercise will not be released for security reasons. As in most peacetime exercises, it is not expected that the officers will decide whether the "friendly" or the "enemy" side "won."—United Press.

Roxxy

SECOND BIG WEEK
TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

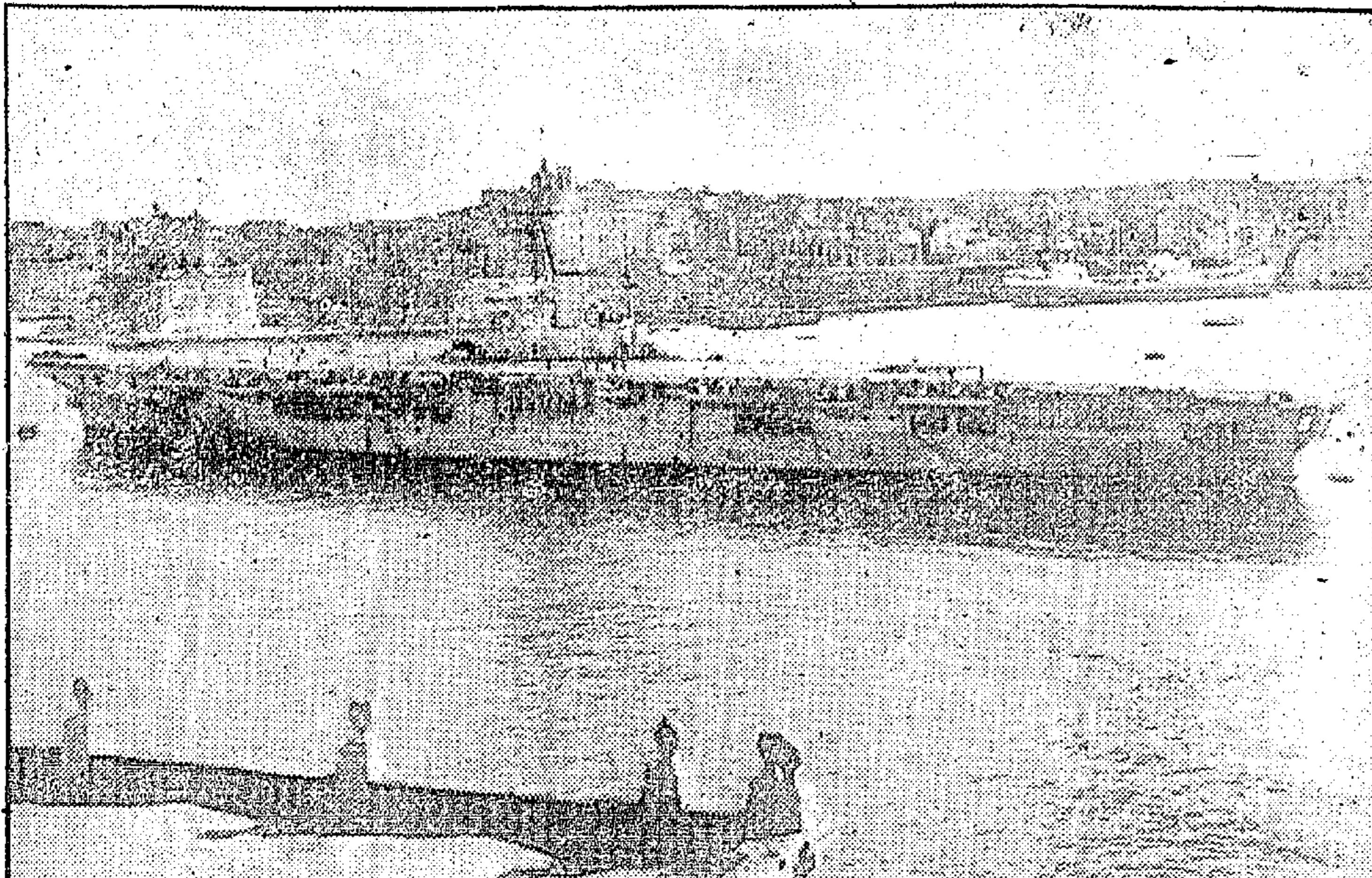


GALA PREMIERE
TO-MORROW AT 9.30 P.M.



Veteran star of the music halls George Robey, who is now 81, singing his song "If You Were the Only Girl in the World," with Joy Marlowe, during the celebration of the 19th anniversary of the Windmill Theatre in London. — Central Press.

Soon To Come To The Far East



The aircraft carrier HMS Glory seen at Malta, where she is to undergo a period of working-up before proceeding to the Far East. HMS Glory was recently commissioned in the United Kingdom and has on board a Chatham complement.

—Central Press.

Premature To Act On Troops For Europe Issue Now—Senator

Washington, Feb. 13.

Senator Walter F. George (Democrat) said today he thinks it would be premature for Congress to act presently on the troops for Europe issue unless it gets more information on United States commitments.

Mr George is second-ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which—with the Armed Services Committee—will start hearings on Thursday on the dispute.

The committees are expected to bring forth a resolution ap-

proving the assignment of United States troops to the Western European command under the North Atlantic treaty. Senate Democratic leaders tentatively scheduled whatever resolution is reported as the first major business to come before the Senate this year.

Senator George indicated he was unwilling to go along with that programme unless the administration was prepared to tell more now than he expects. He told reporters: "The overall programme—when it is worked out—should be submitted to Congress for approval. That is the only way to get real national unity."

NOT WORKED OUT

Mr George said, what the Senate committees had been told so far indicated that the programme had not yet been worked out. He said he was not asking for details of the Atlantic area defence plans because their disclosure might be harmful, but he believed "overall general commitments" should be submitted to Congress for approval.

The foreign policy debate over America's part in the defence of Western Europe is continuing this week at dozens of Republican-sponsored Lincoln Day rallies.

At Pontiac, Michigan, on Monday night Senate Republican leader Kenneth Wherry said a "citizens army" of 100 National Guard and Reserve divisions could be trained at a cost of not more than \$3,500,000 per year. He said, "This would provide a war potential much more respected by Russia than an international garrison army of 40 divisions on the Rhine—which will probably cost 20 times that much money." —United Press.

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Reds May Deport Missionaries

Vatican City, Feb. 13. Over 7,000 foreign missionaries will soon be deported from Communist China, according to reports received here today. The Chinese authorities were also said to be preparing to try American missionaries for spreading "imperialist" propaganda.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIAN STRIKE NEGOTIATIONS: WARNING BY T.U.C.

Sydney, Feb. 13.

The Australian miners' Communist president, Mr Idris Williams, declared tonight that a strike settlement, "which was in sight," had been made more difficult by an Australian Trade Union Congress warning of the dangers of "Communist conspiracy."

The Trade Union Council, in uttering this warning, emphasised that there was "industrial merit" in the claims of both the miners and the striking dockers, and did not describe either strike as Communist-inspired.

Executives of the Miners Union and the Australian Trade Union Congress will meet tomorrow to discuss the one-day-a-week coalfield stoppages in protest against making a recent wage increase award conditional on 10 days' work in every fortnight.

Mr Williams said that the miners would continue to seek the support of the Australian Trade Union Congress "unless they make further co-operation impossible."

He charged the Congress Executive with having "joined in the Menzies Government's false propaganda about a 'Red plot to dislocate industry.'

"The function of the Congress should be to assist in every way trade unionists to achieve satisfaction of their genuine industrial demands and not associate themselves with the enemies of the labour movement,

"All unionists must seriously consider this declaration has made a settlement, which was in sight, more difficult."

TERMS SET OUT

Mr Williams issued another statement from his Executive saying that the miners would be recommended to end the stoppages if all parties agreed to the following terms:

1.—The present award against which they were protesting to be declared inoperative;

2.—A new award to be brought down conceding the recent increases without "incentive" conditions;

3.—A further conference to deal with other claims by the miners;

4.—When an agreement was reached on this basis, all parties to ask the Government to withdraw the penal actions against the miners' leaders.

Today's warning by the Australian Trade Union Congress said that the Communist "conspiracy" was launched by the second World Peace Congress in Warsaw and endorsed by the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions.

The people of Australia, and particularly trade unionists, must beware of this. But the trade union movement must retain its traditional right to strike for better wages and working conditions and rectify industrial injustices, the Congress warning said.—Reuter.

Inquiries About Jap POW's

Tokyo, Feb. 13.

The Japan Red Cross Society forwarded to the Soviet Red Cross Society 300 letters of inquiries written by the relatives of Japanese prisoners of war still detained in Russia, according to the Kyodo News Agency today.

The letters, picked out of about 8,000 received by the Japan Red Cross were airmailed between January 13 and February 5 through the International Red Cross headquarters in Geneva.—Reuter.

JAPANESE ACCEPT PACT PLAN

Tokyo, Feb. 13.

Reporting to the Diet on his talks with Mr John Foster Dulles, American peace envoy, the Prime Minister, Mr Shigeru Yoshida, today said that the United States had revealed its friendly and lenient attitude towards Japan not as a former enemy but as a democratic ally.

Mr Yoshida said that under present circumstances, Japan must co-operate with America in securing her defence.

The Japanese Premier inferred that the seven-point proposal made by the United States on a peace settlement was acceptable to Japan.

The American proposals, formulated late last year, were circulated among Japan's former enemies, including Russia, which rejected them.—Reuter.

Armed Red Convoys In American Sector

Vienna, Feb. 13.

Two armed Russian convoys passed through the American sector of Vienna without authorisation on Sunday night, according to American military police reports.

The first consisted of three jeeps and 24 lorries filled with troops armed with tommy-guns. The second was of 25 vehicles, including some carrying 105-cm. guns, three jeeps and four weapon carriers.

The lorries had from 15 to 20 fully armed men in each and

the jeeps and weapon carriers four men apiece, all armed.

The American military authorities are believed to be considering a protest on the grounds that the movement of the convoys constituted a serious violation of American-controlled territory.—Reuter.

TRUMAN MESSAGE WELCOMED

New York, Feb. 13.
A New York Times editorial said on Tuesday:

"We welcome President Truman's message to Congress yesterday asking for a gift of American wheat to India. It may be true that India's present shortage of food is part of her own making and the result of her dispute with Pakistan. It certainly is true that Indian policies in the United Nations seemed in American eyes to lack both courage and foresight. But both these considerations are irrelevant in the face of the threat of widespread famine... Mr Truman finds we can spare this wheat without danger to our own stocks. India could and would pay for the freight."

"We hope congressional approval will be forthcoming promptly and by an impressively large vote. Not so much because we too want to win Indian friendship, or to answer Communist propaganda, or to convince the Asiatic people generally of the disinterestedness of our motives—though these are all good things to fulfil—but because it is implicit in our ethics to do what we can for those less fortunate than ourselves when they are in dire trouble."—United Press.

Moslem Holy Alliance Suggested

Paris, Feb. 13.
The heads of American missions in the Near East, meeting tomorrow for an informal conference in Istanbul, will probably adopt the British defence proposals for Middle East defence, Le Monde, the Conservative evening paper, said here today.

"Britain's plan," said Le Monde, "is to establish a Moslem 'Holy Alliance' which might have some influence on the 50 million Moslems within Russian Asia."

Le Monde said that the first item on the agenda of tomorrow's conference was probably the inclusion of Turkey and Greece in the North Atlantic Pact.

Of Iran, Le Monde said: "America is faced with a vacuum. The first consignment of American weapons there was coldly received, and the Iranian attitude is becoming daily more reserved, until the day when the Western Powers prove, by their presence, that they are determined to make themselves responsible for this sector."—Reuter.

“TITOISM” BREAKS OUT IN LATVIA

Smuggled Story Of Merciless Purge Of Cabinet Ministers

Russians Order Hunt For Skilled Workers

Stockholm, Feb. 13.

“Titoism” has broken out in Latvia, one of Soviet Russia’s most secret and strongly armed outposts against Northern Europe.

Local newspapers smuggled over the Baltic to Sweden and news broadcasts from Riga tell a tale of merciless purges of Cabinet Ministers and other Latvians afraid of the fate which Moscow’s increasing war preparations may be creating for their country.

Latvia’s all-Communist Government seems to have been happy enough running the country for the Central Government in Moscow as an “independent Soviet Republic” until the Russians ordered a hunt for skilled workers early this winter.

A decree was issued ordering all “naval technicians, port servicing personnel, engineers and other technicians” to register with the local labour boards.

Most Latvians did so.

After a screening by the secret police some of them were directed to work on the airports, submarine pens, coastal artillery emplacements, barracks and other military establishments being built by Russian and German experts down Latvia’s West coast from North of Ventspils (sometimes called Windau) to South of Liepaja (Libau).

A considerable number was put to work on a newly opened plant at Ventspils manufacturing electric equipment for submarines. Others were drafted to another new factory making metal submarine nets near Liepaja. Yet others were assigned to Russian-commanded vessels making new soundings and charts of the South-East Baltic.

Wherever the men were sent, they were not allowed to take their wives and children with them. They were paid salaries well below their earnings in civilian life.

About 11,000 were sent to Russia proper because, the labour boards explained, there “is a surplus of skilled workers in Latvia.”

PLANS UPSET

This mass withdrawal of skilled workers from civilian production upset the yearly plans which each Latvian industry has to fulfil. This in turn embarrassed Latvia’s Cabinet in its dealings with Moscow, because the Cabinet is formally responsible for seeing that the plans are carried out.

Rumours that the Cabinet was “in wrong with Moscow” began to sweep Riga. Confirmation followed quickly.

The official Communist newspaper “Cina” announced in a recent issue that Sergei Nikolaevich Gulanitski has been dismissed for “failure to organise and control effectively river transport”.

Gulanitski was awarded the Order of Lenin as lately as last July.

Other Ministers purged quickly after him for inefficiency include the Foreign Minister,

Peteris Valeskalns; the Forestry Minister, Sakss; and the Education Minister, Karlis Strazdins.

“Cina” added that the Prime Minister, Professor August Kirchenstein, “has been warned.”

The dismissed men were Latvian Communists who came to power after Russia incorporated their country in 1940.

They have been replaced by “Latvians” who have spent most of their life in Russia, like Ivan Ostrovs, the new Foreign Minister, and Samsons, the new Education Minister, or by pure Russians like the new Forestry Minister, Artemiev.

Parallel with these purges, party leaders and local administration officials have been dismissed.

The “crime” of all the purged men is apparently not merely inefficiency in carrying out the plans, but also resentment against Russia’s policy in Latvia.

Usually reliable sources in touch with Riga say that “just as Russia let the North Koreans do her fighting in Asia, so she intends to make Latvia—and neighbouring Estonia and Lithuania—her North Western “shock absorber” against the Western bombers in any future war.”

“The sacked Cabinet Ministers,” these sources add, “and some of the Latvian people realise this.”

ATOM BOMB TARGETS

Russia would throw her submarines, bomber and fighter squadrons and guided missiles from the three Baltic countries against Scandinavia and North Germany not only because they are suitably situated geographically, but also to keep some of the most important atom bomb targets away from her own Western territories.

The purged Ministers are reported to have told Moscow that this policy was causing bitterness among Latvians and to have urged the need for better air raid protection.

Moscow reaction, expressed in the Russian-controlled “Cina”, was promptly to accuse the Ministers of “bourgeois nationalism”.

“American imperialist agencies”, the newspaper wrote,

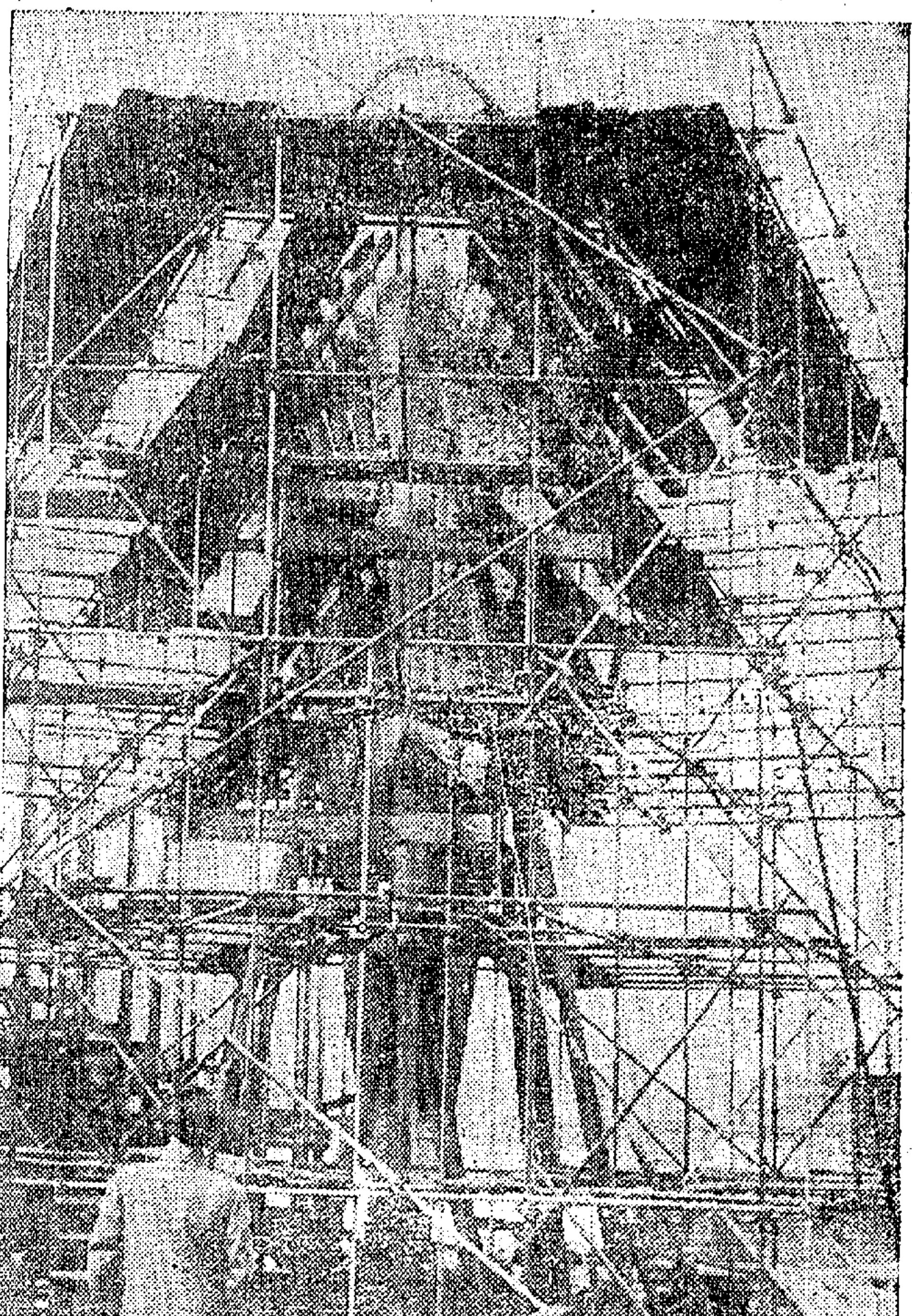
MOSCOW ON PACT WITH PEKING

London, Feb. 13.

The main purpose of the Sino-Russian pact is to prevent the recurrence of aggression by Japan or powers associated with her, the Soviet Literary Gazette said today, the first anniversary of the 30 years’ alliance.

The Gazette said this was especially important today when, under the protection of the United States occupation forces, Japanese reactionaries were becoming increasingly arrogant.

“The friendship of the Soviet and Chinese peoples is a firm foundation for peace in the Far East and serves also as a bridge linking revolutionary Europe with revolutionary Asia,” the Gazette continued.—Reuter.



SEAGRAVE APPEAL HEARING

Rangoon, Feb. 13.

The High Court here opened hearings on Tuesday on the appeal of “Burma Surgeon” Dr Gordon Seagrove against a six-year prison sentence.

Dr Seagrove, who devoted his life to medical missionary work in the Burmese jungle, was convicted of treason on January 7 for aiding rebel tribesmen.

His Burmese attorney, Kyaw Myint, told the Court that the letter used in evidence against Dr Seagrove actually strengthened his client’s case. The letter, written by Dr Seagrove, warned a nurse named Nang Leng that she would be handed over to the rebels if she warned the government that the rebels were planning to kidnap the government commissioner.

Kyaw pointed out that the letter was returned to Dr Seagrove after the nurse had read it, but that he made no effort to destroy it, “showing he had no sinister motive.”—United Press.

“have planted their spies and diversionists in Latvia. Latvians are conspiring underground in accordance with Western directives.

“These underground enemies engage in banditism and rumour spreading, and are attempting to sow hatred against the great Russian nation.”

Nationalists, they put all their hope in the Anglo-American imperialists who are expected to restore bourgeois Latvia after a war. They praise the former regime and exaggerate national characteristics.”—Reuter.

A ship which will never sail is being built at Southampton. This section of a 4,000-ton passenger-cargo vessel is strictly for exhibition purposes in connection with the coming Festival of Britain. The outline of the ship will be framed by scaffolding to give the impression of a vessel under construction. It will then be re-erected in London.

Indonesia Must Fight Inflation By Stepping Up Her Production

Djakarta, Feb. 13.

Indonesia must fight inflation by stepping up production and keeping government expenditure as low as possible, Dr Sjafruddin Prawiranegara, the Finance Minister, said today.

He told a press conference that the main factors behind the Indonesian inflation were a sharp increase in the money in circulation and industrial turbulence which forced national production down and increased foreign market prices for vital imports.

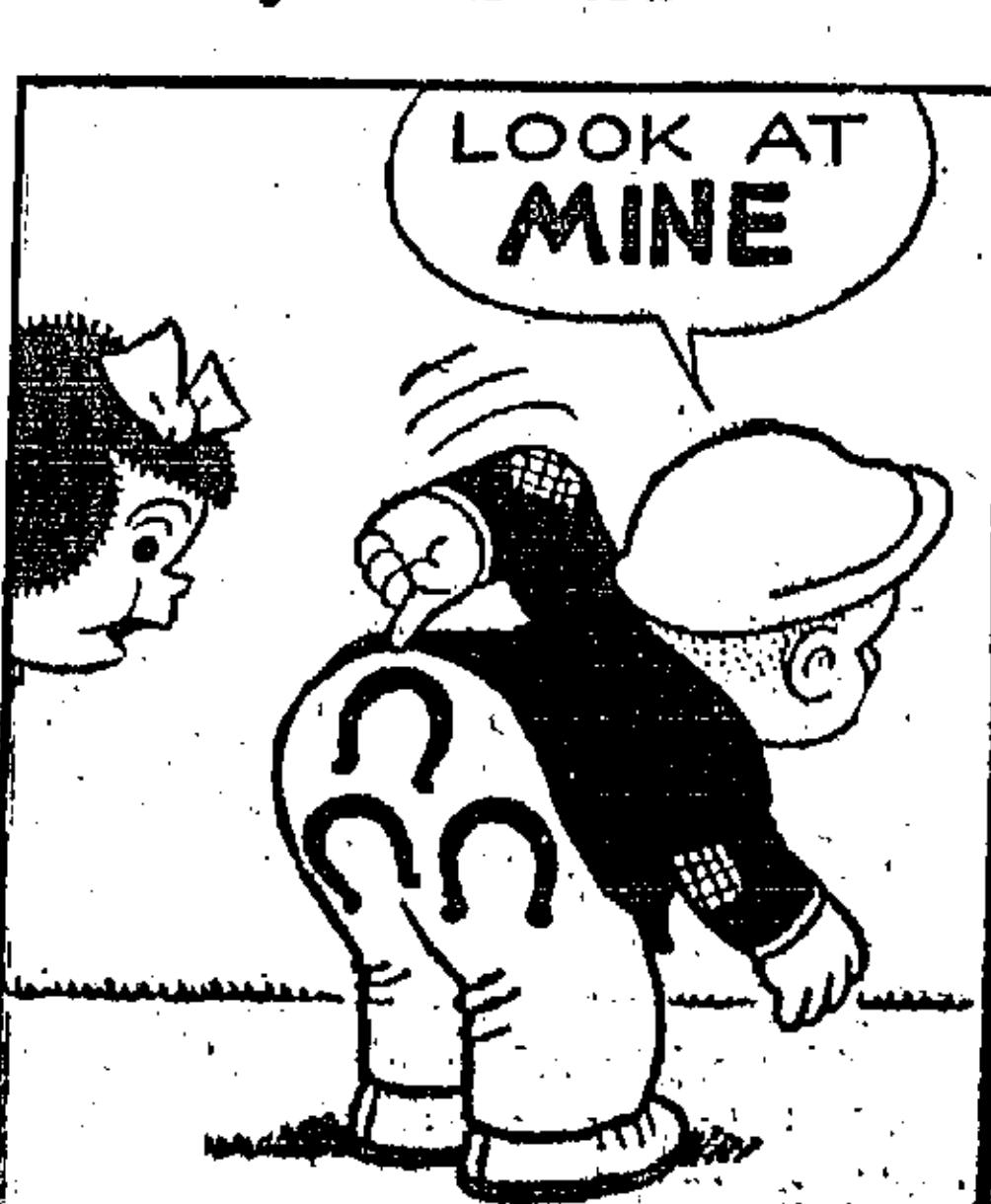
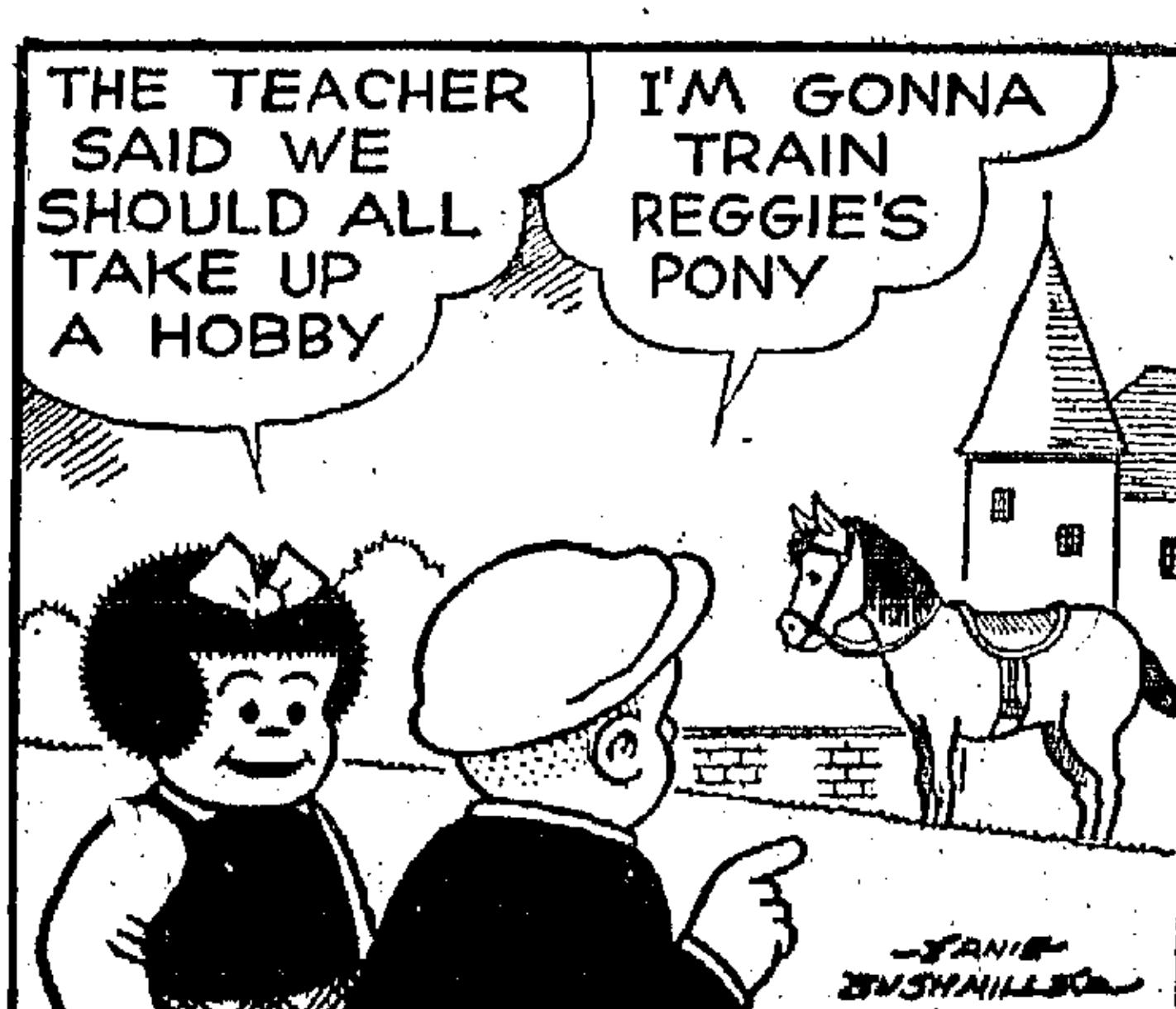
National production had lost export goods through regular strikes and in turn less foreign exchange available for imports. The plantation industry alone lost at least 160 million to 170 million rupiahs in foreign exchange last year due to strikes.

Asked why the Government did not take steps against the strikes, he replied: “Since our State is based on democracy we cannot take fascistic steps. Interference by the State at present would be sure to be wrongly interpreted.”

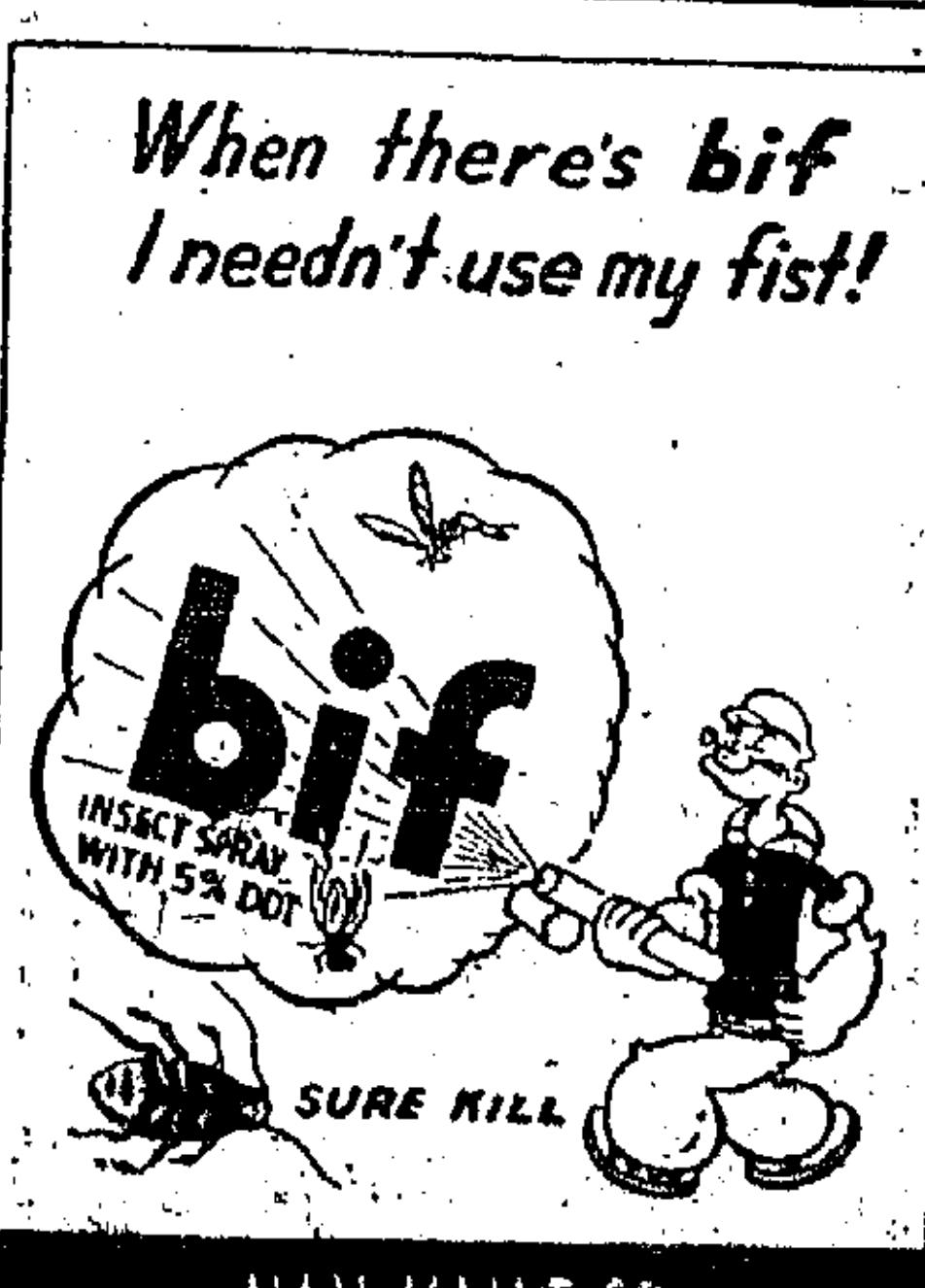
A wave of large and small strikes has swept Indonesia, affecting plantations, waterfront and textile and other industries. They usually end in victory for the strikers.—Reuter.

NANCY

Shoddy Work



By Ernie Bushmiller



SURE KILL NAN KANG CO.

THERE ARE TOO MANY BLUES TOURING WITH THE MCC IN AUSTRALIA

Says HAROLD MAYES

Many people close to cricket, including some not a million miles away from Australia, aren't hiding the fact that they consider England's slim hopes of winning even single Test match were further reduced by preferential treatment for amateurs.

Writing home to a friend, one of MCC's touring party goes so far as to say that he doesn't think England's cricketing star will shine again as long as there's a "blue" look about our teams, an obvious reference to the unusually large number of 'varsity types who found favour with the selectors.

If you take a look at figures, which really tell the story, it cannot be denied that David Sheppard, John Dewes and John Warr just haven't made the Australian grade.

H.K.'s Soccer Win At Manila

Manila, Feb. 13.

Hongkong's football team defeated a local club selection 1-0 in their second appearance at the Rizal Stadium on Tuesday night.

The lonely tally was a freak shot that came 10 minutes after the kick-off. The local left full back blocked a kick by centre forward Lee Chung-fat and tried to kick the ball over the bar. The ball hit the bar and went into the goal. Hongkong's goalie, Kai Yen, foiled all attempts to score during the second half. — United Press.

French Tennis Tourney Reaches Semi-Finals

Lyons, Feb. 13.

Karl Axeisson, of Sweden, Henri Cochet, of France, and Jaroslav Drobny, of Egypt, all entered the semi-finals of the men's singles in the French International Covered Courts Lawn Tennis Championships here today.

In the quarter-finals Axeisson beat Bernard d'Estremau, of France, by 6-3, 6-2 and 6-3. Cochet walked over Pedro Massip, of Spain, and Drobny beat Henri Dollelli, of France, by 6-2, 6-2 and 6-3.

In three women's singles quarter-finals matches, Miss Jean Quertier, of Britain, beat Mme Josette Amouretti, of France, by 6-3, 6-3; Mme Jacqueline Boutin, of France, beat Mme Violet Rigolet, of Switzerland, by 6-4 and 6-3, and Mme Anne Marie Seghers, of France, beat Mme GINETTE Ducelles, of France, by 6-4 and 6-4. — Reuter.

RUGBY UNION

London, Feb. 13.

St Thomas Hospital beat St Barts Hospital by 11 points to nil in a Rugby Union, Hospitals Cup, first-round, match today. — Reuter.

THE GAMBOLES



BARRY APPLEY
BUT GEORGE, YOU ARE SO HUMBUGGED — IF I JUST TELL YOU DO YOU THINK YOU

Warr's performance in the last Test of no wickets for 63 runs in 16 overs just isn't good enough, and I can't help feeling that the team pickers on the spot would have done better to have given Lancashire's Brian Statham a chance.

JUST 'TRIAL HORSES'

He was pitch-forked out of an English winter into high Antipodean summer, and I think that in the circumstances, with nothing to win or lose, he should certainly have been blooded. Even if he hadn't exactly excelled in his brief stay, what had Warr done to keep Statham out of the side?

What the Selectors who sent the Varsity men seem to have overlooked is that most of the run-getting and wicket-taking which put them on to the short list was done at the expense of weakened county side, for it is a well-known fact that when championship-conscious teams play the Universities they rest some of their stars and see how some of the promising hopefuls will show up against these young lads.

Yet on the strength of performances in that company these "young lads" were tossed into the toughest cricket arena of all for the lions to feed on:

Two of the professionals in the side who haven't really had a break at all are Gil Parkhouse and Bob Berry. The Lancashire left-arm bowler is one of the sufferers as a result of too many inexperienced players being sent, for it has always

INDIA FEARS MCC 'FLOP'

Says Ivan Sharpe

Friends in India who are well informed about cricket there urge me to spotlight the dangers threatening England's visit next winter.

It is believed there that the MCC will have real difficulty in securing a representative team. Players like Denis Compton, Len Hutton, Cyril Washbrook, and Alec Bedser are tired. With few breaks they have been playing since 1946, and Washbrook wasn't the only star ready to give even Australia a miss.

Will these leaders go to India? If it's a fact that the Commonwealth cricketers now out there receive better terms than are offered by the MCC, the odds are all against it.

Re-establishment of the England XI should be the first objective of the selectors. It was all to the good that a considerable "teavering" of youngsters was sent to Australia. It is all to the bad that so few of them are making the grade, or even promising to do so.

The prospect before India is disturbing. My Indian mail says:

"The Commonwealth side now here is a tip-top combination, but it takes Worrell, Tribe and Co., all their time to hold the Indians."

"India has had the forthcoming visit of the MCC drummed into its ears for so long that a mediocre side would be really bad propaganda."

been a maxim among the older school of Test men that you can afford to take only one youngster on an Australian tour.

RAW DEAL

Even the players themselves are feeling that if Parkhouse is sent home before New Zealand, as has been suggested, he'll have had the rawest deal of all.

After playing in two Tests, he was left out of this one to include Sheppard, and the only inference which can be drawn is that he isn't exactly favoured by the on-the-spot selectors. Don't forget that wicket-keeper Arthur McIntyre was played as a batsman in his stead in the first Test, and yet in spite of it all the Glamorgan star is still the only batsman outside Len Hutton and Denis Compton to have reproduced anything like his English form.

If this state of affairs continues much longer, the wise men of Lord's will wake up one morning and find that they'll be picking players for Tests who just won't want to know!

One other thing that the trip has done, for all the suggestions of preference for amateurs, is to lay aside the prospect of the appointment of a professional skipper for England. Compton's leadership when he has been in command is, in the view of most of the players, indifferent, to say the least. Not that you can blame Denis for that, because he has always insisted that he preferred playing under an amateur captain.

I wonder if he blushed during one of the Tasmanian matches when Alec Bedser, having bowled a ball, stopped in the middle of the wicket for an appreciable time, looking round. Denis, fielding in the slips, called: "What do you want, Alec?" The reply was short, but very much to the point. Said the big Surrey twin, "I want another fielder."

INDIA'S BID

Eighteen months ago, when I wrote about India's bid for leadership in world sport, a lot of people laughed. Yes, in India as well as here. But the bid went a stage further the other day when Prime Minister Nehru opened the new stadium, the first of four, in Delhi.

Nehru confessed that it was the first time anything promised in India had been delivered on time, adding that when he laid the foundation stone a year earlier he thought that it was just another of the many foundation stones scattered around the country—and then forgotten.

But that is just another of the triumphs of my good friend Anthony de Mello, president of the Indian Cricket Board of Control and honorary secretary of the newly-formed Sports Club of India. He'll deliver the other goods, too, so don't say you weren't warned.

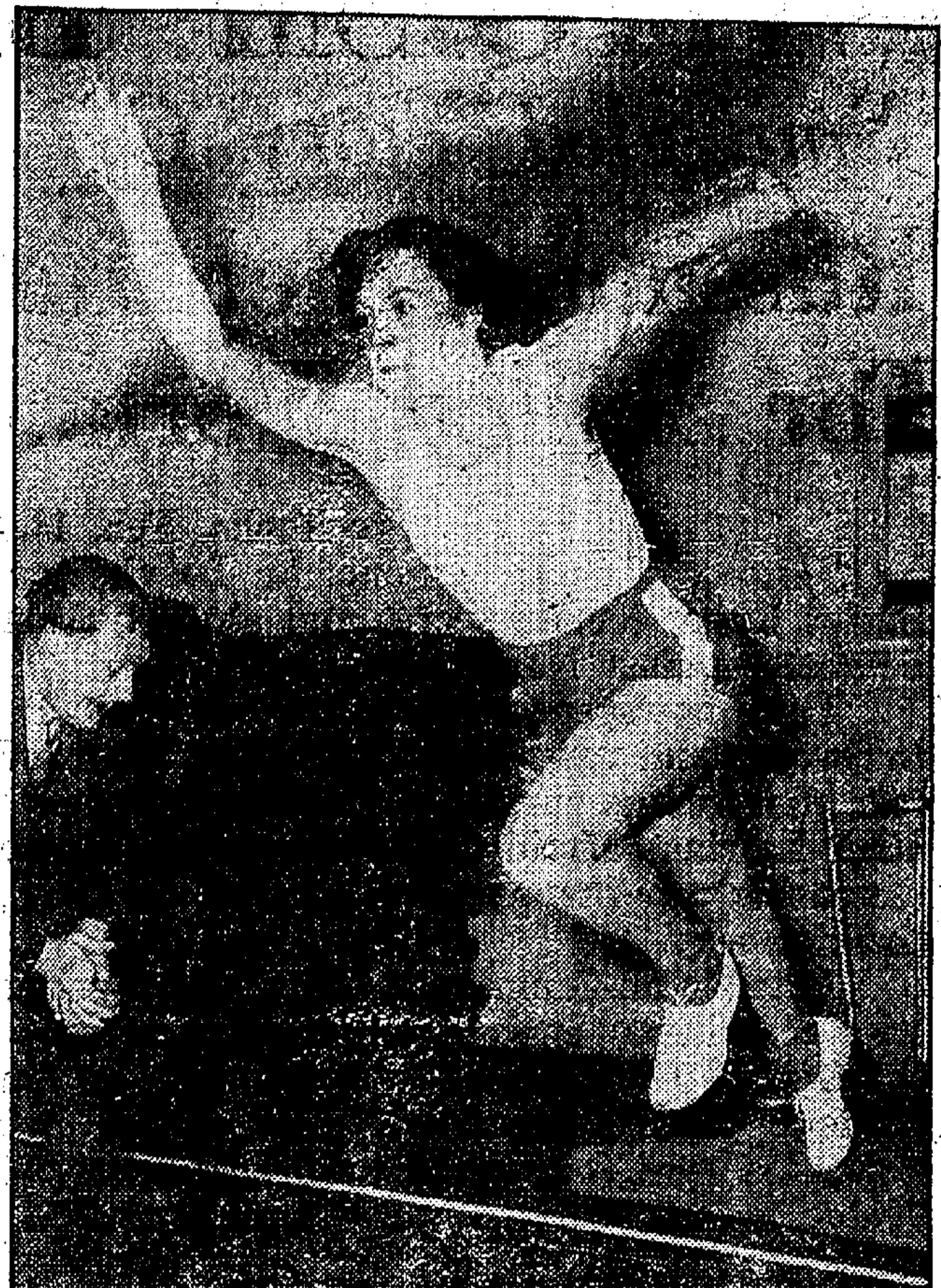
Commonwealth Team Arrive In Ceylon

Colombo, Feb. 13.

The Commonwealth cricket team which has been touring India arrived here today. They were met at the Ratmalana Airport by officials of the Ceylon Cricket Board of Control.

The Commonwealth team will play three matches in Ceylon the first, a three-day game against a Ceylon XI, starting at Colombo on Friday. — Reuter.

SHE'S AFTER RECORDS



Britain's young June Foulds, 16-years-old and one of the brightest track hopes for the future, is busy during the winter keeping herself fit at indoor classes under the watchful eye of Mr E. H. Knowles, one of the most successful trainers of champions.

June trains with the other members of the Spartan Ladies Athletic Club at West Kensington Central School, and her clubmates include sprinter Sylvia Cheeseman, quarter-miler Valerie Ball and high-jumper Sheila Alexander. — Central Press Photo.

Three Shivering British Boxing Champions Look To The Future

By ARCHIE QUICK

Transplanted in forty-eight hours from the high summer of Johannesburg to the refrigerated climate of London, Jack Gardner, Don Cockell and Eddie Thomas are three shivering British boxing champions.

For two of them, Cockell and Thomas, the change is serious for both of them have February fights. Cruiser-weight Cockell is due to meet the dangerous American negro Lloyd Marshall in London, and welterweight Thomas hopes to add the European championship to his British and Empire titles when he fights Italy's Marcello Palermo at Carmarthen.

Thomas, in his native South Wales, and Cockell, at Brighton, are both finding outdoor work on icy, rainy roads a trial after the heat of South Africa, while Gardner wishes for nothing more than to sit over a fire and delay his departure to Brighton where he is to do his preparation for his European Championship fight with Austrian Jo Weidin in March. Meanwhile, manager John Simpson has succumbed to influenza less than a week after his arrival back in England.

STEPPING STONE

The Thomas-Palermo fight is outstandingly important because it may be the stepping stone to a world title for Eddie Thomas, the Merthyr miner-choirboy. Should he beat Palermo, and he is an odds-on favourite to do so, he will hold British, European and Empire championships and would be the logical contender for the world title.

But wait a minute! The master of all the welters is Sugar Ray Robinson, and he is matched with Jake La Motta for the latter's middleweight crown. Should he win Robinson says he will relinquish his welter title, and that will leave the door wide open for Thomas. American boxing organisations agree that should this happen they would nominate Billy Graham for a fight with Thomas for the vacant championship. And Thomas has already beaten Graham, convincingly too, over ten rounds at Harringay. — Reuter.

HOME SOCCER

London, Feb. 15. Mansfield Town was held to a goalless draw by Southport in a Third Division, Northern, match, today. The match was abandoned at half-time owing to fog.

This match was originally arranged to be played last Saturday February 10, but was postponed owing to Mansfield Town's fixture in the F.A. Cup. — Reuter.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

INCOME FROM SAVINGS:
A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR
THE SMALL INVESTOR

By Norman Crump

Several correspondents have recently asked me how the man with a few hundreds should invest his money.

He cannot afford to take the normal risks of the market. On the other hand, if he leaves his money in the bank, he receives very little interest and runs the risk of having his capital eaten away by inflation.

Last week the small investor was given a new opportunity by the issue of a fresh series of National Savings Certificates. He should certainly take up his full quota.

Admittedly he does not avoid the inflation danger. On the other hand he escapes the risks of the market, and if properly handled Savings Certificates can be made to provide him with an income.

The new certificates are issued at a price of 15s. per unit. They rise to 15s. 3d. at the end of the first year, and to 15s. 6d. at the end of the second. Thereafter they rise by sixpence a year up to their seventh year, and then by ninepence a year for the next three years. Thus in ten years' time a unit is worth 20s. 3d.

The following scheme is based upon these annual increments. Assume that an investor takes up 400 certificates. These cost him £300. Let him cash six certificates at the end of the first year and a further six at the end of the second year. This gives him "an income" of £4 11s. 6d. for the first year and £4 13s. for the second. This income is free of tax.

He will still have 388 certificates left, each of which will be worth 15s. 6d. Their total value is £300. 14s. Therefore his original capital remains intact.

During the next five years he can draw a larger income; for the rate of increment is now sixpence a year. To keep his capital intact, he could cash 13 certificates at the end of the third year, 11 at the end of the fourth and fifth years, 10 at the end of the sixth and nine at the end of the seventh. This process will give him an income ranging from £10 8s. for the third year down to £8 2s. for the seventh. By following this scale, he will ensure that at no time are his uncashed certificates worth less than his original £300.

CAPITAL PRESERVED
For the last three years of the 10 the annual increments are ninepence. He can therefore afford to cash 37 certificates, and the best division between the three years is one 13, 13 and 11 certificates. This gives him an income of approximately these amounts in pounds.

At the end of the 10 years he will have 297 certificates left, each will be worth 20s. 3d., so that their total value is £300 s. 3d. Thus he has preserved his original investment of £300, and indeed can argue, if he likes, that he has a capital appreciation of 14s. 3d.

What does this scheme mean, when expressed as rates of interest? Quite frankly, Savings Certificates must be regarded as a two-year lock-up. The return for each of the first two years is only just over 1½ per cent., although if the holder uses any part of his income, reckoned at 9s. in the pound, the return is equal to 2¾ per cent.

During the next five years, the return decreases from 3.36 per cent. for the third year to 3.0 per cent. for the seventh, allowing for tax as above, the figure is from 6.1 per cent. down to 4.9 per cent. This is more than can be obtained from any leading industrials today.

Danger

For the last three years the return rises to an average of about 4 per cent. Once more allowing for tax at 9s. the gross

return averages about 7¼ per cent. This is more than can be obtained from any ordinary investment, unless that investment is attended with a distinct degree of risk.

The one danger run by this scheme is of course that of inflation. If prices rise by 35 per cent. during the next 10 years, then the certificate's final value of 20s. 3d. would in terms of purchasing power be no more than its original price of 15s. Therefore, the investor could preserve his capital only by continuing to hold all his certificates and forgoing his income. Even this may be a lesser risk than that of buying Government or other securities whose prices may go the wrong way.

CHICAGO GRAIN
FUTURES

Chicago, Feb. 13.
Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:

Wheat—price per bushel.	
Spot	2.59
March	2.60 1/4
May	2.60 1/2-3/4
July	2.56-2.55 1/2
September	2.57 1/4
December	2.59-2.58 1/4
Corn	
Spot	1.83 1/2
March	1.83 1/2-3/4
May	1.86 1/2-3/4
July	1.86 1/2
September	1.86 1/2
December	1.82 1/4
Rye	
May	1.86-1.85 1/4
Oats	
March	1.02 1/4
May	1.01 1/2-3/4
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack, \$13.80—United Press.	

STANDARD BRIDGE

by M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South.

North-South game.

N.

♦ 10 8 3 2

♥ 10 7 5 4

♦ Q 2

♦ 8 5 3

W. E.

♦ K J 9 ♠ Q 6 5

♦ Q K 8 2 ♠ J 6 3

♦ K 9 8 4 ♠ J 10 7

♦ K Q ♠ J 10 7 6

S.

♦ A 7 4

♥ A 9

♦ A 6 5 3

♦ A 9 4 2

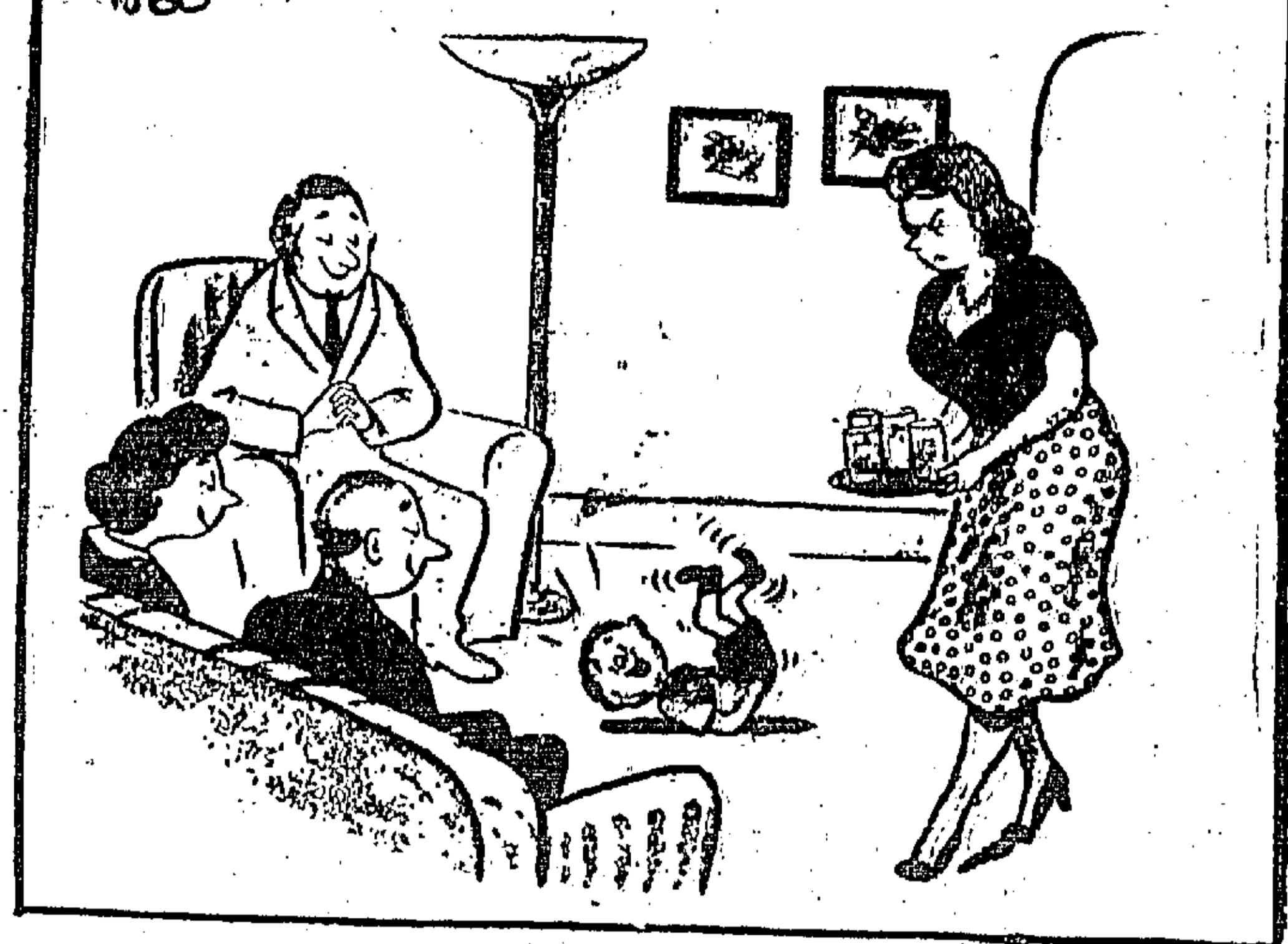
An example of an unsound bid that was duly punished. South bid One No-Trump, a call that is not justified, in spite of the four Aces, owing to the dearth of honour cards. West doubled, thus showing at least 16 points. East could work out that his side held the balance of strength and therefore made a penalty pass.

West led ♦ 4 to dummy's ♦ Q. East made the interesting play of ♦ J, an encouraging card, that obviously showed possession of ♦ 10 as well. West could thus continue Diamonds when he regained the lead without fear of playing into a tenace. South was held to five tricks for a penalty of 500 points, less 150 for his honours. There is no game for East-West.

London Express Service.

EDITORIAL PRESS SERVICE, INC.—NEW YORK

1868-



Kent Smith's Shownews

FRED ASTAIRE AT 50
IS DANCING ON
THE CEILING

★ YVONNE MITCHELL has had an out-of-the-ordinary week. She:

Opened in "Pygmalion" at Swiss Cottage; heard that her first play, "Here Choose I," will be produced by Nottingham Repertory Company on February 19;

Was tested for a role in the Tyrone Power picture "Beyond Time And Space"; and was also tested for a role in Paul Soskin's "I Spy Strangers."

HASTINGS' CONQUEST

★ CHARLOTTE HASTINGS is a housewife. She (like her namesake Hugh) wrote a play. Hugh makes £100 a week from "Seagulls Over Sorrento." I don't know precisely what Charlotte has made out of "Bonaventure" but it has been produced in the West End; is being filmed in Hollywood; will open on Broadway in the spring, retitled "Strange Sanctuary."

No battle now for these Hastings!

★ ARE THEY economising at Pinewood? I hear that Yvonne de Carlo's dance of the seven veils in "Hotel Sahara" have only one veil.

Can't they draw it over the scene?

★ WEEK'S QUOTE. Mr Attlee, after a meeting of the National Film Finance Corporation: "I would like to understand something of film finance."

Major Baker (of Ealing Film Studios): "So would some of the film makers."

★ WEEK'S TIP to British producers. Take a look at Clement MacCallin, tall, dark stage actor—then sign him up quick before Hollywood adds him to its bag.

I saw a preview of his first starring film, "The Rossiter Case," a few days ago—and he's star material.

★ ROLE THAT needs no acting — Mickey Rooney, cast as a clown in "Centre Ring."

INTERLUDE BY THE SEA



Lovely Ann Blyth and handsome Farley Granger enjoy a day at the beach in Samuel Goldwyn's "Our Very Own," which is now showing at the King's Theatre. The story is built around the discovery by the eldest of three sisters (played by Ann Blyth) that she had been adopted into the family and her rivalry with her younger sister (Joan Evans) over her fiance (Farley Granger).

COLOMBO CONFERENCE OPENS

American Policy Outlined: Military And Economic Assistance

BIG FOUR MEETING PROSPECTS

Washington, Feb. 13. Diplomatic informants said today that there can be no formal meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers before early April.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson is to meet here for about ten days starting on March 26 with the Foreign Ministers of the American republics.

Although Mr Acheson will not be able to meet with the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and Russia before early April, officials said, it is possible that the Big Four deputies could convene in Paris around March 10.

The deputies could work at such a meeting on the agenda for the Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference later. But Paris reports that the deputies' meeting had definitely been scheduled for some time between March 10 and 15 were denied here.

State Department Press officer Michael McDermott said the next Western note to Russia on the Big Four meeting was still in the drafting stage. He indicated that the Russians must agree to a broad agenda before any definite date is set for the deputies' meeting. So far the Russians have insisted that the conference discuss German issues only.

The American, British and French notes were expected to be ready for delivery to Moscow next week. — United Press:

Mystery Of Rothschild Jewels

Frankfurt, Feb. 13. American and German officials kept silent today after they had secretly opened two strong boxes said to contain some or all of the Rothschild jewels, stolen during the Nazi occupation of Paris.

American officials said that the identification of the jewels might take weeks and no statements would be made meanwhile.

American military police, armed with sub-machine guns, brought the boxes to the Central Bank here from the Rhein-Main Bank, where they had been stored since the war.

The French Government recently requested the examination of an estimated \$500,000 worth of jewels which had been deposited at the Rhein-Main Bank in the name of the "Vorbach" Publishing Company of Berlin, owned by Dr Kurt Hermann.

Hermann, now a citizen of Liechtenstein, is a former Prussian State official. He is said to have been a close friend of Hermann Goering and other prominent Nazis.

Hermann was alleged in German Press reports to have bought valuables, after the Rothschild jewels were taken to Germany, costing two million Reichmarks. — Reuter.

Nominations For Academy Award

Hollywood, Feb. 13. Nominations for the Academy Award for best directors were Joseph Mankiewicz for "All About Eve," John Huston for "The Asphalt Jungle," George Cukor for "Born Yesterday," Billy Wilder for "Sunset Boulevard," and Carol Reed for "The Third Man." — United Press.

Asia Not Written Off By Washington As A Bad Debt

Ceylon, Feb. 13.

Mr Donald Kennedy, the chief American observer delegate, told the Commonwealth "Aid to Asia" Conference today that the United States had not written off Asia as a bad debt.

Her policy was to give both military and economic assistance to combat Communism, he told the delegates of this third Commonwealth conference on aid to South and South-East Asia, which opened here today.

Mr Kennedy declared that there was no truth in the widespread belief that America had been disillusioned about the honesty of Asian countries after misappropriations committed by the Kuomintang Government.

American assistance to the plan would depend on the views of Congress, but he was confident that Congress would give all possible help in fighting Communism and poverty.

Observers expect the Asian delegates to this meeting to stress the need for reconciling immediate needs with the scheme's long-term projects. Some delegates felt that there was no time to waste if the plan were to achieve anything concrete.

The conference elected the chief Ceylon delegate, Mr A. G. Ranasingha, as its chairman and decided to discuss:

1.—A review of the technical co-operation scheme under the plan.

2.—An organisation for continuing consultation between the participating countries.

3.—Obtaining financial aid for the scheme.

4.—The role of the International Bank in the scheme.

The Commonwealth countries represented are Australia, Britain, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand and Pakistan. Observer delegations are present from Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and the United States, and from the International Bank.

FINANCIAL BACKING

Replying to Mr Ranasingha's speech of welcome, Mr Kennedy said that his Government was watching the work of the Commonwealth Consultative Committee with the greatest interest and sympathy.

The United States was particularly interested in co-ordinating the Committee's work with that of the special technical and economic mission which provided assistance to Indonesia, Thailand, Burma and Indo-China.

Leaders of several other delegations said that in the last analysis the success of the Committee's plan would depend on the provision of sufficient financial backing, according to an official spokesman who reviewed today's session.

The Committee's main work today was to appoint a chairman and fix an agenda. Discussion of the first item—progress of its technical co-operation scheme—began during the afternoon after delegates had submitted reports from their governments.

The discussion will continue tomorrow. — Reuter.

FIRST CONTRIBUTION

Montreal, Feb. 13. The Montreal Star, in a dispatch from Washington, said today that the 2,000,000-ton wheat gift President Truman had asked for India could in effect be considered this country's first contribution to the British Commonwealth's Colombo Plan.

This was because the money involved would be required to be set aside by the Indian Government in a special counterpart fund for its own currency to be used for development within the country.

"The chief difference between the counterpart proposal and the Colombo Plan, as understood here, is that the former would deal only in Indian funds while the Colombo Plan would provide foreign capital. It is suggested the two could be 'married' on projects requiring both, such as irrigation and power undertakings where Indian funds derived from the sale of wheat might be used for labour or acquisition of land, while foreign funds could cover imported machinery." — United Press.

U.S. ARMY'S RAPID INCREASE

Washington, Feb. 13.

The Army Chief of Staff, General J. Lawton Collins, told the National Press Club today that the United States will have the equivalent of 24 active divisions by July 1.

General Collins said the United States had no more than eight divisions when the Communist aggression in Korea started last June.

Officials here estimate that Russia has about 175 divisions.

General Collins gave the proposed United States strength during a speech at a Press Club luncheon. The 24 divisions would include 12 regular Army divisions, six National Guard divisions, and 18 regimental combat teams, which are the equivalent of six divisions.

The Army Chief of Staff said it was not practical to call up all 27 National Guard divisions since there was not enough equipment for them and many men were needed in industry for the rearmament programme.

He said: "Eighteen months from now, we shall be able to meet any demands for troops that would be needed if we went on general mobilisation."

We have also expanded the Army school system, and we shall shortly have cadres for an active army far beyond our present strength. — United Press.

Bombardier To Appeal

Malacca, Feb. 13.

Bombardier John Stewart, aged 26, of Motherwell, Scotland, is to appeal against the death sentence passed on him today for murdering a Chinese waitress in an amusement park.

Both the Jury and the Judge recommended him to mercy. — Reuter.



Meet one of the London Stage's most popular young "lovelies" — Joy Devine. Joy smiles at the photographer and (forgive the pun) does indeed look divine.

Army For Europe Issue Warms Up

Washington, Feb. 13.

Senate Democratic leaders today said they would make troops for Europe the first major legislative business of the session.

Administration leaders are determined to get the Senate on record as approving the assignment of American troops to General Dwight Eisenhower's North Atlantic Pact defence forces.

The Democratic leader, Senator Ernest McFarland, hopes to dispose of the hotly-contested troops issue before taking up the bill to draft 18-year-olds.

As the Senate debate grew hotter, there were these developments:

1. A two-man Senate sub-committee reported that the Western European nations had shown little evidence of a will to set up effective defences.

2. Republican Senator Kenneth Wherry asked that Lieutenant-General Curtis Lemay, Bombing Command Chief of Staff, Major-General Ira Eaker, World War II Allied bombing chief authority, and the aircraft designer Alexander Seversky be called for testimony before Congressional Committees. Senator Wherry hopes they will support his thesis that the United States' defence effort should centre on long-range bombing and not troops.

Senator McFarland expressed the belief that the Combined Foreign Relations Armed Services Committees would reach a decision by the middle of next week on Senator Wherry's resolution asking that no troops commitments be made until Congress has established a policy. However, this appeared doubtful because hearings will not begin until Thursday and Republican members indicated that they would ask for testimony from ex-President Herbert Hoover and others not at present scheduled as witnesses. — United Press.

Fire Destroys A Tokyo Store

Tokyo, Feb. 13. Five employees were burned to death early this morning when fire destroyed a two-storey store in Nihonbashi, Tokyo.

The victims, sleeping in a second floor room, were trapped by the fire which started from a room directly underneath. They were out-of-town employees of the firm, whole-salers of knitted goods.

Two employees sleeping on the first floor escaped without injury but were unable to warn others in time. — Reuter.

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